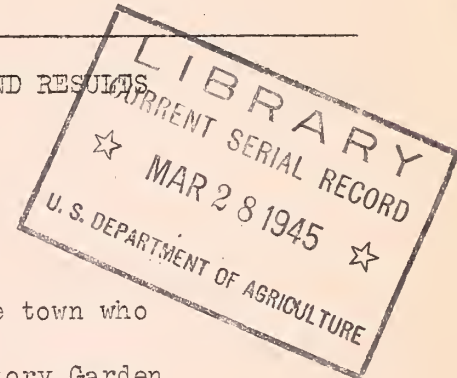


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W A R T I M E E X T E N S I O N W O R K

SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS BASED ON STATE REPORTS



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Some items in this week's summary:

- Celebration held for 500 young people from one town who gave 10,000 days to harvest.
- State reports large increase in organized Victory Garden efforts in urban communities.
- Eradication of noxious perennial weeds frees 300 acres of county's land for full production.

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MONTANA
October 1, 1944

Veterans' assistance.- Members of State staff have continued preparation for advising county agents in development of program for veterans' resettlement service. This included additional work in farm appraisal. Detailed analysis of farm production and values was made at 5-day intensive training school. Actual appraisals were based on field observations and studies. Estimates of crop acreages for post-war period were established for use in planning and as basis for information relating to veterans' resettlement.

Work was done on manuals covering subject of veterans' resettlement, to be made available later. State publication has been prepared on Some Points To Consider in Selecting and Buying a Farm. This is general statement of things every prospective purchaser should keep in mind. Two statements on organization and procedures in assisting returning veterans have been prepared primarily for guidance of county extension agents.

Number of counties are developing general information on their agricultural industry as aid to veterans looking for farming opportunities. Included are data on soils, climate, types of farming, public services, and yields for different natural areas of county.

Weed control.- Visits have been made to a number of counties to inspect and analyze control work on noxious perennial weeds being carried out by weed control districts under supervision of county extension agents. Observations were made of use of latest methods of weed control recommended by experiment station and

and indicated on test plots and field demonstrations in each county. Results were compared with more detailed experimental work done by experiment station at Bozeman. New methods worked out by district crews, or new or different ways of doing regular work, were noted and checked against experimental work. Wartime shortages of atlacide and sodium chlorate are being partly offset by practice of oil burning to clear off weed patches so less chemical is needed for good kill. Use of agricultural borax alone and in combination with chlorates has also been widely demonstrated and proved effective. Several counties are using it on commercial scale to extend scope of chemical control work.

Eradication of noxious perennial weeds and prevention of their spread is conserving use of valuable crop and pasture land for production of much needed food and forage crops. Yellowstone County has released for full production nearly 300 acres of valuable irrigated land that previously was being operated at a loss because of weed infestation.

4-H Clubs.- Annual 4-H baby beef show and sale proved to be almost 100 percent on wartime basis in that few cattle were fattened beyond "high," "good," or "low" choice slaughter grade. Much work has been done during past year in effort to accomplish this end.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
October 20, 1944

Farm labor.- In spite of hurricane, large apple and potato crops, along with other fruits and vegetables, were successfully harvested this fall with aid of 4,000 young people, 350 women, 318 Jamaicans, and 250 prisoners of war. Jamaicans were housed at University in Durham and some in Concord, and war prisoners were brought from Camp Devens. Women from cities and villages, boys and girls from city and rural schools and from summer camps, were recruited for emergency harvest. Special credit goes to boys and girls of Nashua, where during summer 500 young people gave 10,000 days to harvest. They were presented with war food certificates and VFW insignia at celebration attended by farmers.

Home economics.- Refresher courses for county home demonstration agents and county 4-H Club agents are being arranged by Extension specialists at University. Clothing course was held in September, and job methods training school will be held early in December. Fall clothing work is putting stress on remodeling, and in several counties, by request, coat schools will be held. Girl of Franco-American extraction has been made emergency war food assistant to do special food work with French-speaking people in cities. In nutrition, quick freezing is being emphasized at meetings held for local leaders.

Young farmers.- Four-page letter is being sent to young men deferred for agriculture throughout New Hampshire. About 3,000 copies are made up at State office from time to time and mailed from county offices. Purpose of letter is twofold: To recognize and show appreciation for part these men have taken in war program; and to urge more careful planning in their farm business. Letter includes articles by resident staff members; personal stories on young farmers written by county agents; "Do It Now" column of short items from specialists on timely subjects; "In a Nutshell" column on phases of agriculture to which attention should be given later; and reports of young farmers' meetings.

NORTH DAKOTA
October 15, 1944

Farm labor.- In spite of wet weather in August and September, preventing maximum use of labor supplies in harvest and threshing, North Dakota is completing all-time record harvest of wheat and second largest potato crop. Crops are now nearly harvested. Sugar beet harvest is well along. Large corn crop will be harvested in next 6 weeks, but men and machines appear to be sufficient to get job done. No unusual crop losses have occurred in State for lack of seasonal labor for harvesting.

Local and county farm-labor placement offices helped 11,000 more farmers in procuring seasonal and year-round farm labor this year than in 1943. Under labor program in 1944, 48,903 different farm orders were handled by Extension Service organization. Orders were for 86,080 workers, and placements of 80,701 were made in response. Interstate and foreign workers totaled 25,498, intrastate workers 6,097, and local workers 47,036. Of local workers placed through labor program 16,970 were men, 24,875 boys and girls, and 4,688 nonfarm women.

A 3-way State and county farm-labor program emphasized (1) maximum construction and use of labor-saving machines and all available harvesting machinery, (2) recruitment, training, and use of local labor, including men, women, and youth, for agricultural work, (3) planned recruitment, transportation, placement, and use of out-of-State and foreign workers available and necessary to supplement local labor available. In this program were enlisted resources of schools, town and civic organizations, farm organizations, U.S. Department of Agriculture agencies, State War Manpower Commission, Governor's office, and Commissioner of Agriculture and Labor. Emergency labor program was administered by State and county extension services with guidance of State and county farm-labor committees.

Veterans' placement.- District meetings of county extension workers were completed preliminary to resuming organization of veteran's farm advisory committees. Committees in Cavalier County is now processing first veteran for farm placement, and procedure is being used as guide for similar work with veterans in other counties.

Victory Gardens.- Garden seed sales in North Dakota for 1944 were slightly more than 15 percent above 1943, estimated on basis of survey in two or more retail stores in each of 46 counties. It is believed largest increase in gardens was in cities, where opportunity was greatest. More urban communities carried in organized effort to make garden plots available than in 1943. Circular material on food preservation and vegetable storage was released during garden harvesting period. New folder was prepared on fruit growing, listing suitable varieties for State.

Food preservation.- With aid of war food emergency assistants, extension workers in North Dakota are continuing intensive program to encourage maximum preservation of garden and other food products produced in past season. Demonstrations on preservation methods were carried on widely, and easily accessible information centers were maintained at key points. Training school for war food assistants was conducted this fall at college in preparation for continued work.

Poultry.- Through meetings, county poultry programs, and other outlets, was given information on turkey marketing order and proper finishing out of birds. Circular in natural color was issued in cooperation with neighboring States to encourage sound culling of poultry flocks.

